

U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:

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EVENT: Settlement

Defendant: City of Eastpointe

United States's Attorney Stephen J. Murphy Announces Americans with Disabilities Act Settlement with City of Eastpointe, Michigan

A settlement has been reached with the City of Eastpointe, Michigan regarding accessibility at its 38th District Court, announced United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy.

The Agreement resolves alleged violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The Justice Department initially conducted an investigation after it received a complaint about accessibility at the court house. The investigation concluded that there were over one hundred separate violations of the ADA at the 38th District Court, ranging from accessibility in the parking and entrances areas to seating in the courtroom, listening devices in the courtroom, and the toilet rooms. The City of Eastpointe has worked cooperatively with the Department throughout its investigation to reach this Settlement Agreement.

United States Attorney Murphy said, "Ensuring that courthouses are accessible to individuals with disabilities is critical to ensure that all individuals have the ability to exercise their fundamental rights under the Constitution. This is an example of how federal and local

government can work together to benefit people with disabilities."

The Agreement requires the City of Eastpointe to remedy inaccessible entrances, parking spaces, seating in the court room, holding cell, the jury room, toilet rooms and the judicial bench, among others. The City has agreed to complete the work within six months of today.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the ADA or the agreement can call the Justice Department's toll-free ADA Information Line at 800-514-0301 or 800-514-0383 (TTY), or access its ADA Web site at "http://www.ada.gov."